

### 3 Families were first settlers

*Hob 6er 3/22/76*

Hobart's first settlers arrived nine years before George Earle. Joseph and Melvina Mundell, Ann and Samuel Sigler, and William and Elmira Hurst together with other members of the three families came in covered wagons and in this place cast their lot. Other early pioneer families were the Bissells, Wheelers, Murrays, Colburns, Dantons, Derseys and Spencers.

The federal census of 1850 showed Hobart Township as having a population of 240 persons from 48 family groups. Of that number, 26 were attending school. The first son born in the town of Hobart was reportedly George Henry Smith, born in 1852.

In the 1870's, Hobart had reached the 500 mark in population and was considered to have "the air of a city". By 1900 the number of Hobart residents had grown to 1200, largely due to the city's importance as a railroad transportation center. In 1935, population figures show Hobart had grown to 6500 people.

Today there are approximately 25,000 people within Hobart's boundaries, a figure that has remained fairly stable for the last few years. The completion of modern sewage treatment facilities in five years should herald yet another "boom" as construction is renewed. Annexation possibilities also hold the promise of even more Hobart residents to add to the rolls of the Friendly City.